

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,**

**Plaintiff,**

**vs.**

**CHRISTOPHER BASKIN,**

**Defendant.**

**8:15CR313**

**MEMORANDUM AND ORDER**

This matter is before the Court on the Defendant's Notice of Appeal, ECF No. 122; his Motion for Leave to Appeal in Forma Pauperis, ECF No. 123; and the Clerk's memorandum addressing the Defendant's ability to proceed on appeal in forma pauperis, ECF No. 125. The Defendant seeks to appeal from the Memorandum and Order, ECF No. 120, and Judgment, ECF No. 121, denying his Motion Under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 to Vacate, Set Aside, or Correct Sentence by a Person in Federal Custody ("§ 2255 motion").

Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 24 governs the Defendant's ability to proceed in forma pauperis in this appeal. Before the Defendant may appeal the denial of his § 2255 motion, however, a "Certificate of Appealability" must issue. Accordingly, the Court will construe the Defendant's Motion for Leave to Appeal in Forma Pauperis as a Motion for Certificate of Appealability.

Pursuant to the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-132, 110 Stat. 1214 ("AEDPA"), the right to appeal the denial of a § 2255 motion is governed by the certificate of appealability requirements of 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c). 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(2) provides that a certificate of appealability may issue

only if the applicant has made a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right:

(c)(1) Unless a circuit justice or judge issues a certificate of appealability, an appeal may not be taken to the court of appeals from—

. . . .

(B) the final order in a proceeding under section 2255.

(2) A certificate of appealability may issue under paragraph (1) only if the applicant has made a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right.

(3) The certificate of appealability under paragraph (1) shall indicate which specific issue or issues satisfy the showing required by paragraph (2).

28 U.S.C. § 2253(c).

A “substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right” requires a demonstration “that reasonable jurists could debate whether (or, for that matter, agree that) the petition should have been resolved in a different manner or that the issues presented were ‘adequate to deserve encouragement to proceed further.’” *Slack v. McDaniel*, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000) (quoting *Barefoot v. Estelle*, 463 U.S. 880, 893 n.4 (1983)).

First, the issues raised in the § 2255 motion were carefully considered. For the reasons set forth in the Court’s previously issued Memorandum and Order, ECF No. 120, denying the Defendant’s § 2255 motion, the Court concludes that the Defendant has not made a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right as required by 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c).

Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. The Defendant's Motion for Leave to Appeal in Forma Pauperis, construed as a Motion for Certificate of Appealability, ECF No. 123, is denied; and
2. The Clerk will mail a copy of this Memorandum and Order to the Defendant at his last known address.

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.

BY THE COURT:

s/Laurie Smith Camp  
Chief United States District Judge